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February 2, 2005.

Ms. Angela Reynolds , Environment Officer  
Department of Planning and Building: Sports Park DEIR  
City Of Long Beach  
333 West Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Concerns: Consideration of this Plan as a Recreation Facility For All Long Beach Residents

This plan is being considered primarily for its recreation benefits. It is not clear from the plan that it will be used by most Long Beach residents due to the costs for entry to the park. It is not clear if children will be excluded from the park or will in any way benefit from its construction, because of age restrictions

1

Questions: How much will entry to the park cost?

2

How much will a League Team pay to use the park?

Has any survey been taken of Long Beach residents, including income questions, to see what percentage of residents would use this park?

3

Can Long Beach afford the \$20 million dollars estimated to grade this site before the park is built?

Is this another publicly financed entertainment option for the wealthy, paid for by tax dollars of Long Beach residents and visitors?

4

Is the project a use of resources for the privileged few, like the extensive golf courses build and maintained by our city, that are used by a minute percentage of Long Beach residents and others who come from out of town?

Thank you for the consideration of the above concerns, as these issues highlight much asked questions about development in Long Beach :

Are our tax dollars being spent to benefit just a few, or on resources that benefit all Long Beach citizens, no matter what their age or economic standing?

5

How we can plan a sports park costing tens of millions of dollars, yet not have money for a homeless shelter?

Sincerely,



Karen Ashikeh LaMantia

## **KAREN ASHIKEH LAMANTIA/THIRD LETTER**

### **P-6-1**

This comment questions who will use the Proposed Project. The project will provide playing and spectator facilities for league soccer and softball, as well as youth-oriented facilities such as a skateboard park and a youth golf training facility. The expansion of recreational opportunities may have a secondary benefit of freeing up other ball fields and soccer fields in the area, allowing more frequent use by local neighborhoods.

### **P-6-2**

This comment questions the cost of entry to the park. The Sports Park and Youth Golf Facility will be open to all members of the public subject to a fee for use structure. It is anticipated that the fees for the sports fields, primarily intended for league use, will be competitive with comparable public and private facilities in the greater Long Beach area. It is currently anticipated that the youth sports facilities will be operated by not-for-profit or nonprofit enterprises and that fees will be established that maintain accessibility by the majority of the City's population. The City has not selected a contract operator at this time. As such, exact park fees are unknown.

### **P-6-3**

Please refer to Responses to Comments P-6-1 and P-6-2.

### **P-6-4**

Costs related to implementation and operation of the Proposed Project are not germane to the subject environmental analysis. No further response to comments regarding costs is warranted. This comment represents the opinion of the commentor on matters not specific to the environmental information and analysis in the Draft EIR. This opinion will be made available for consideration by the decision-makers as part of their determination regarding the Proposed Project.

### **P-6-5**

This comment concludes the comment letter and summarizes points made in Responses to Comments P-6-1 through P-6-4. The comment does not contain any substantive statements or questions about the Draft EIR, and no further response is necessary.